

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9605

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0987

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP, BSTC, BU

SUBJECT: IBM AND 100-MEGABYTE DISC DRIVES

EUR/EX FOR AMBASSADOR HERZ

USDOC FOR BEWT/OEA AND TDAD

REFS: A) SOFIA 0284; B) SOFIA 2299

1. CHASE MANHATTAN BANK PUBLICATION EAST WEST MARKETS OF MAY 5 REPORTS THAT USG HAS BEGUN GRANTING APPROVALS FOR SALE OF 100-MEGABYTE DISC DRIVES TO CEMA COUNTRIES. EXAMPLES GIVEN WERE APPROVALS FOR IBM SALES OF 3330 DISC DRIVES TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND SOVIET UNION. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE OEA CONFIRMATION THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT HAS TAKEN PLACE.

2. FOR TDAD: IF REPORT IS TRUE, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE FOLLOW-UP CONTACT WITH IBM REGARDING THEIR SALE OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT TO VARNA SHIPYARDS (AS PER REFTELS) TO DETERMINE WHETHER JM CONTRACT WITH ISOTIMPEX SPECIFIED TWO 100-MEGABYTE DISC DRIVES AND, IF SO, WHETHER IBM INTENDS TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR EXPORT APPROVAL. QUESTION OF EXPORT APPROVAL FOR THESE DISC DRIVES HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY RAISED BY VICE PREMIER POPOV AS WELL AS OTHER GOB OFFICIALS. PLEASE ADVISE.
BATJER

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Message Attributes

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